CRF resources for State road projects

4675. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved Rs. 3976 crore for 1,291 State road projects as on January this year from the Central Roads Funds;

(b) if so, whether during 2003-04 and 2005-06 the number of road projects undertaken with resources from CRF were 2,059 and Rs. 4269.36 crore was released for the work;

(c) whether the Ministry is planning to revamp the financial process to build highways, by increasing the viability gap funding;

(d) whether Ministry is also considering to create panel of consultants for highway sector; and

(e) to what extent it would help in completion of the highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) This Ministry has approved 4229 Nos. projects for improvement of State roads from the Central Road Fund (CRF) for an aggregate amount of Rs. 8142.99 crore as on January, 2007 since the year 2000-2001.

(b) 758 and 759 road projects were approved for CRF during 2003-04 and 2005-06 respectively and amounts of Rs. 778.95 crore and Rs. 1299.27 crore were released during the year 2003-04 and 2005-06 respectively.

(c) This Ministry is responsible for development of national highways maximum viability gap funding of 40% of the project cost is approved by the Government for the National highway project implemented with Public Private Partnership. There is no proposal of raising this amount.

(d) Ministry has finalized the list of panel of consultants for taking up various works for National Highway sector and other centrally sponsored schemes.

(e) This empanelment of consultants has been done to avoid the need for repeated pre-qualification, which helps in reducing time to select a qualified consultant. This empanelment also help in identifying a suitable consltant for carrying out a specific work.